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## ON THE RANGE AND GEOGRAPHIC VARIATION OF *CARANX HIPPOS*

*Caranx hippos* is here understood as defined by Jordan and Evermann, a Crevally of the genus *Caranx*, with falcate vertical fins, developed canines, naked chest, with patch of small scales in its center, and black spot on the pectoral.

There are American specimens referable to this species in the American Museum of Natural History from the Atlantic coast of the United States; Para, Brazil; and Gulf of California. Atlantic United States material (where the type locality is situated) has about thirty scutes in the straight part of the lateral line. These scutes become very small anteriorly, and there are more ordinarily developed here sufficiently to be counted in large specimens than in small ones.

The Gulf of California fish seems to be indistinguishable from that of our Atlantic coast, although in the largest specimen examined from there (280 mm. to base of caudal) as many as forty scutes may be counted in the straight part of the lateral line, the chord of the curve being contained 1.4 times in the straight part. Atlantic coast material examined in connection with the present paper, ranges from 105 to 173 mm. in length, with chord of curve 1.2 to 1.35 times in straight part; but a photograph of a really large fish from Florida, has the chord of curve 1.4 in the straight part.

To judge from two specimens (250 and 277 mm. in length) from Para, the fish from the South American coast is slightly different from ours, the scutes rather fewer, and the chord of the curve more nearly equal to the straight part of the lateral line in length. In these, the scutes are from 25 to 30, and the chord of curve between 1.1 and 1.2 in the straight part of the lateral line. The outline of their heads is also slightly different from North American material examined, the back above the gill-cover more elevated,

and the profile slanting down more abruptly, less rounding from the nape. They likely represent a distinct race, and as there seems to be no name available for same, *Caranx hippos tropicus*, new subspecies, is here proposed, type No. 3889, American Museum of Natural History, Para, Brazil, E. C. Starks, 277 mm. in length to base of caudal, chord of curve of lateral line 1.17 in straight part, scutes 26.

We have two rather large specimens from the mouth of the Congo, Africa (Banana) collected by Messrs. Lang and Chapin, 398 and 420 mm. in length, which seem to be the same as the Brazilian race, as they have chord of curve of lateral line 0.9 and 1.16 in straight part, scutes 28 and 29. Their profiles are less rounding than in the North American race, being more like those of the Brazilian fish, though not so steep.

Whereas *Caranx hippos* (Linn.) is reported from the Indian and western Pacific Oceans fishes so identified from there seem to be specifically different.

J. T. NICHOLS,  
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## NOTES ON LIZARDS OF THE CANAL ZONE, ISTHMUS OF PANAMA

### Common Ground Lizard

Ground Lizards (probably *Ameiva ameiva prae-signis*) are very numerous on the Canal Zone and can be seen at any time during the day crawling cautiously about in the grass in search of insects. They are found along the roads and trails and in open patches of land, but are seldom met with in the dense jungle. They enjoy basking in the hot sunshine on boards, stones and pieces of dead wood.

A small strain will sever the tail from the body, but it is soon reproduced and they are sometimes seen with two tails where the original tail was only partially severed. The maximum length of this species is about 15 inches.

The skin is shed in small patches in the first part of the Dry Season during late December and in